

Beta Data



Executive Board:

- Master —
Aaron Leibowitz
- Lt. Master —
Josh Podoll
- Scribe —
Matt Windt
- Exchequer —
Adam Schneider
- House Manager
Alex Gates
- Rush Chair —
Dan Kaufman
- Pledge Master —
Andrew Herman
- Sentinel —
Andrew Chessen
- Brother at Large —
Joe Vulih

Inside this issue:

Master's Corner	2
Rush News	3
Philanthropy News	4
Social News	5
Jewish Life	5
Brotherhood News	6
Pledge Master's Corner	7
Contact Info	8

The Official Newsletter of the Beta Colony of Alpha Epsilon Pi Kicking Off

Zac Peeples '09, Alumni Chair —

It may seem like “Kicking Off” would have been a more appropriate title for the first issue after the refounding, and not the third. This, however, is the first issue in which we can report on a house, social events, fraternity awards, and enough other things that, were I to list them here, there wouldn't have room to write anything else.

AEP has begun a new era, continuing its 90-year run as the house from which the smartest men at Cornell organize the coolest philanthropy events, throw the wildest parties, and recruit the future doctors and lawyers of America (particularly New York).

We began the year with a bang by learning that, in our inaugural semester (Spring 2006), our average GPA of 3.6 was almost 0.2 points ahead of the second-place fraternity, a title that was recaptured in the following semester.

With the wind at our backs, the brotherhood made sure Cornell knew that we had returned, ready to shed the stigma of our absence and return the Beta Chapter to its former glory.

Having been philanthropy chair in the fall, I can say firsthand the we were suc-

cessful in getting the ΑΕΠ letters out into the Cornell community.

It was a greater privilege, though, to follow as alumni chair this spring, and let our predecessors know that we mean to stay and reestablish the values held by brothers since 1917.

Our efforts have paid off. To our great pleasure, a couple of alumni found their way to the house. They were welcomed with open arms, and the active brothers were glad to show them around, swap stories, and hear about the old traditions, whether on a snowy Tuesday afternoon or late on a Friday night.

As you read about this year's goings-on throughout this issue, know that this next year will be even better, and please join us as we continue old tradition and start some of our own.



Brothers and their beautiful dates during our spring formal.

Master's Corner

Aaron Leibowitz '08, Master—

As the weekend comes to a close and I finally have a few minutes to sit back and reflect, the first thing that comes to mind is ... wow. A little over forty-eight hours ago we were kicking off our slope day mixer with good music, bad beer, and a bunch of Alpha Omicron Pi sisters. That's right, on our first year back in good ole' house at 140 Thurston we managed to be one of only a dozen fraternities to co-host a slope day event with a sorority. Though we were unable to get all the necessary supplies for Blue Oblivion, we managed to continue the debauchery throughout the afternoon and well into the evening. (Luckily, a majority of us had to call it a day just before the Yankees gave up that 8 run inning to the Mariners and the Rangers blew their one-goal lead with 7.7 seconds left in the game).

Not to be topped by an amazing Slope Day success, Jonah Eisenstock (current social committee member and Lieutenant Master-elect) organized an extraordinary formal for Saturday night. It was a classy event from start to finish, in-

cluding a wine and martini pre-game, dinner at Pangaea, and dessert and dancing at the house. We just about cleared North Side Wine and Spirits out of Andre [champagne], and mixed in some Corona for good Cinco de Mayo karma.

The effort put into this weekend's events and the subsequent fun had by everyone involved is reflective of the entire Spring 2007 semester. Week in and week out we continue to contribute to the Greek community. Last weekend, we not only had the largest group partaking in Mitzvah Day [the Cornell Jewish Community Service Day], but we also found time to help restore a park on campus as part of the Greek Tri-Council's "Day of Demeter." On the social front, we held two greatly successful open parties. The first was "AEPIrates" and featured a hand crafted crow's nest by our resident engineers Alex Gates and Max Lobovsky. The second was a "Cops and Robbers" party, and included a light up electric chair decoration. The Thurston Ave 'schoolhouse' is quickly becoming the place to be again on North campus.

As finals wrap up, sealing the past ten months in the books, it also means the end of our "first year back." Subsequently, we can no longer use the "we're new" excuse. Luckily, there isn't another nine-man group I can think of who I would be more comfortable with handing the reigns of this fraternity over to. The incoming Executive Board displays responsibility, accountability, and most importantly determination.



These men will return the Beta Chapter of Alpha Epsilon Pi to what it was at its heyday, but they can't do it on their own. They need whatever support you can offer, whether that be moral, financial, or just a friendly face stopping by to let them know that you're still rooting for us. So I ask any of you who are still true to gold and blue to let your voice be heard, and help us return the heart of AEPI to Cornell University.

Would you prefer to receive future newsletters by email? If so, email Daniel Isaac at dsi3@cornell.edu.

Also, you can view this and past newsletters, in full color, at any time at www.aepi.org

Enjoy!

Spring 2007 Recruitment: What A Rush!

Dan Kaufman '09, Rush Chair —

This spring, I had the privilege of leading AEPi Beta into the first spring rush in our house since the refounding. None of us truly knew what to expect from rush week; we had very little benchmark against which to measure success.

Not only that, but ten of our esteemed brothers ventured overseas for the semester, so we entered rush severely shorthanded. I was nervous beyond belief...I looked into the eyes of all the guys at the beginning of the week, and knew I wouldn't be able to live with myself if I let them down.

So, we went to work, building on our efforts from the fall semester. We had a pretty good base of six or seven guys who we really thought would be great assets to our chapter. We planned a pretty diverse rush week, with events ranging from inflatable boxing with ten pound gloves to the always-popular broom-ball to virtual reality sports. We sought to hold events that were conducive to displaying the strength of our brotherhood, and how much we valued each other.

It turned out to be one of the most



The pledges in front of their Crow's Nest

tumultuous weeks of my life. I slept twenty hours in seven days, and the rest of the guys didn't fare too much better. But we learned a lot about each other that week...we learned just how much we could accomplish if we all put forth our best effort at the same time. There were guys who we knew we had, pretty much at the beginning of the week, and there were guys who we really wanted, but had very stiff competition for (e.g. Pi Kapp, Sammy, Kappa Sig, Beta, and others). Every day, I would remind the guys at our meetings that this was just as much a competition as an intramural game...we were at war. Just like our beloved pledge manuals tell us: Rush is the Lifeblood of AEPi. This pledge class would make or break our chapter at this critical

point in our progression. I will be forever proud of the efforts of the chapter during this week. Every single guy contributed in the ways they knew best, and that passion translated into success. We proudly inducted the following fourteen young men into the Gamma Pledge Class:

Garrett Bernstein, Justin Cohen, Jonah Eisenstock, Josh Fishman, Andrew Gewercman, Jason Goldman, Justin Granstein, Ezra Kannof, Joe Kripke, Jeff Lipton, Rian Masanoff, Warren Parad, Gregg Schwarzwald, and Shane Wax

These fourteen young men overwhelmingly exceeded our expectations. They proved to be incredibly talented, and more importantly, incredibly unified. They took the idea of "Pledge Class of One" to another level, and as brothers, have continued to elevate our status on campus. Personally, every time I look at these fourteen guys, interacting with each other and with the rest of the brothers, I feel immensely proud... proud of what we accomplished during this past rush, and proud to be able to call these guys my brothers.

Fun With Philanthropy

Zac Peebles '09, Fall Phil. Chair

Joe Vulih '08, Spring Phil. Chair —

We started off the fall semester by helping out the local reform synagogue staff their blood drive. Despite the fact that it wasn't exactly our own event, the synagogue was very grateful for our assistance, and word was passed around Ithaca that AEPi brothers hand out cookies and juice to blood donors like no other.

However, we still needed to fulfill our charitable goals for the semester. After reviewing a long list of worthy charities, we decided that it would be best to focus on raising money for the Shaare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem. This charity is sponsored by AEPi National, and the funds are being used to build a new wing for wounded Israeli soldiers and victims of terrorist attacks. For such a worthy cause, we needed to come up with a worthy event.

After scouring the internet for ideas, we happened upon AEPi Mu Delta's website, which mentioned an "AEPi Toss." We didn't know what it meant, but we liked the name. With a little title-tweaking and brainstorming, the AE"Pie" Toss was born. Zac spent the next couple of weeks hounding professors, deans, Hillel staff, and even President Skorton and his wife.

After opening the invitations to a handful of notable student-leaders and student-athletes, we had a strong lineup of 20 victims who were each brave enough to have pies thrown at them for 30 minute sessions. One of our fall pledges marched all around campus handing out quarter cards and wearing a sandwich board, and people came flocking to throw \$3 pies at their professors and friends. We couldn't have been happier.



Brothers pose with pied ILR Dean Harry Katz

Day two, however, was not so pleasant. We set up in freezing sheets of rain, wondering if anybody would even show up to get pied. We must have underestimated the philanthropic heroism of our victims, because the first 2 showed up, sitting there as Zac held an umbrella over them, and hollering at passers-by to make their misery worth it by supporting our cause. By the third victim, Dan Isaac (who was incredibly helpful) and Zac could take it no longer. We packed it in, and dragged

our water-logged selves home. In spite of the abysmal weather, we ended up collecting just over \$500. Just as importantly, AEPi Beta was able to retake our place of honor on campus, and we all had a great time.

During the spring semester we had a little trouble getting off the ground with Philanthropy events. Several major undertakings were considered, but none of the ideas ended up getting completed due to various snags. In the end we participated in several other organizations events, even auctioning off several brothers at Jewish Greek Council Charity Date Auction.

When it came time for Hillel's "Jews into the Streets Mitzvah Day," we brought the largest single contingent to the event. We got to clean up the local Girl Scouts camp ground again this year. While it was a lot of hard labor clearing the shore line and clearing brush, it was all worth it for the chance to hang out with the incredible Ranger Duff, even if most of the brush we were clearing was actually in the front lawn of the "Ranger's Residence", aka Ranger Duff's h o u s e . If you would like to donate to the Shaare Zedek Medical Center, please send us a check made out to Alpha Epsilon Pi with a memo "Shaare Zedek Medical Center".

Pirates, Robbers, and Gentlemen

Scott Frankel '09, Social Chair —

AEPi had a very successful semester with our social events. After a great rush week, we had a “Karaoke Island” mixer with Alpha Xi Delta (AXiD) the first weekend of the semester. While some of us are in need of some singing lessons, a good time in bathing suits and hula skirts was had by all. A few weeks later, we had AEPi Date Night, where we had a delicious meal at Lucatelli's followed by an afterparty at the house. However, the best was yet to come the weekend before Spring Break.

AEPirates, the pledge party, was a huge hit. Our innovative AEPi engineers designed an elevated crow's nest dance platform, which was the centerpiece and highlight of the

party. Our guests all had a wild time dancing on the crow's nest and are all looking forward to our pirates party next year. After a great western-themed mixer with Alpha Omicron Pi (AOPi), we decided our next party theme would be Cops and Robbers. The Cops and Robbers party was another success highlighted by a prison cell in the middle of the room; robbers were sent to our electric chair with a beer funnel for punishment.

We finished off with a strong, albeit exhausting, weekend before finals. On Friday, we celebrated Slope Day (a huge concert on Libe Slope infamous for the widespread debauchery of the students) with a mixer in the morning and then we headed off to the Slope in our AEPi Slope Day t-

shirts. Despite the amount of fun that we packed into Slope Day, most of us were able to wake up for our Spring Formal the next night, which was highlighted by a delicious dinner with our gorgeous dates at Pangaea before we went back to the house and had our last little bit of fun before two weeks of finals.



Zac Peebles and Alex Gates looking “gangster” before a 40's Gangster-themed formal in the fall

A Few Good [Jewish] Men

Eli Kischner '09, Jewish Life Chair —

Bringing an active Jewish life to the chapter this semester was a great success. In particular, the Brotherhood helped the general community of Cornell by way of the greatness that is Alpha Epsilon Pi.

One of our biggest events was Hillel's Purim Carnival, which we co-sponsored. AEPi pledges proudly worked at the event, which was at-

tended by hundreds of Jews from all over campus. From pie tossing to a comedy show, the Purim Carnival featured a variety of fun activities, and no group was better-represented than Alpha Epsilon Pi.

Another AEPi Jewish highlight was our assistance in Israel Unplugged, an Israeli culture concert featuring a performance by the IDF traveling band! AEPi provided lodging for sev-

eral of the soldiers, and also helped with set-up and clean-up for the event.

We continued to work closely with Hillel, leading multiple tables at both Shabbat 1000 and the Passover Super Seder

As one of the most respected Jewish groups on campus, AEPi hopes to continue its outreach into the Jewish community in the years to come!

Band of Brothers

Alex Callen '09, Brotherhood Chair—

This past semester witnessed a glorious revolution in AEPi's Brotherhood programming. We kicked off the semester with a tasty Sunday brunch and continued the semester with a lot of events, both fun and kind of educational. As far as education goes, we held two basic-bartending courses to teach brothers and gamma pledges various skills which any brother should have. Countless movie screenings gave us slices of culture, and we took advantage of Ithaca's wintry

weather with hot s'mores around the fireplace, the slippery shenanigans of Broomball at Cass Park, and an exciting Saturday afternoon excursion to Greek Peak. One of the largest events of the semester was our Big Lebowski Night, during which the brotherhood gathered together to watch the film, recite each line right before the actors, and afterwards took over Helen Newman lanes.

This April we tested a pilot program for varied yet consistent house events on Thursday nights. Every Thursday night we will host different

activity which hopefully will double as Rush events and add some variety to Fall Rush which is currently restricted to Monday Night Football. In addition to attracting new brothers, I hope that these events will help bolster the strong bonds we already have. And finally, alumni will be proud to see that many of old composites are finally gracing our beautiful white-washed concrete-block hallways demonstrating the memories and legacies of our predecessors.



Brothers attend a ski trip to Greek Peak, and get together for a group photo at Hillel's Purim Carnival, dressed in their blue and gold best.

SAVE THE DATE!

Friday, May 30, 2008

We will be holding a mega-reunion at the Crowne Plaza in White Plains, NY.

For those alumni who want to meet the new brothers or just get together with old friends, but can't find the time to get to Cornell, we're bringing a reunion to a more convenient location! More info will come shortly, so stay tuned. If you have questions or suggestions, please contact Zachary Peeples using the contact information on page 8

We look forward to seeing you there!

Pledge Master's Corner

Andrew Herman '08, Pledge Master—

This semester I had the privilege of serving as the Pledge-master and bringing fourteen new men into the brotherhood. The fourteen pledges were given a lot of responsibility during the process and are all now ready to serve in important fraternity positions.

Pledge Joe Kripke was elected to be the



Pledge Class President for the Gamma Class. A rotating Pledge Class Vice President that was appointed by myself, and my assistant, Brother Ian Laiks, assisted him each week. Every single pledge was assigned to work on one of the minor board committees. Some highlights of the committee work were Rian Masanoff coordinating the brotherhood ski trip to Greek Peak, and the social committee's pledges, Ezra Kannof, Garret Bernstein, Jonah Eisenstock, and Andrew Gewercman, planning and coordinating of our successful AEPirates pledge party. The event was such a success, that a large number of Sammys came,

despite them having their own party that night. In addition the party the pledges planned a very nice date night for the brotherhood at Lucatellis. Even though he has already been initiated, Jonah Eisenstock has continued working on the committee and has planned our spring formal.

Since it is important that all members of AEPi understand what it means to be part of the international fraternity, as well as the local one, we took them to the Mid Atlantic Conclave hosted by the Temple chapter in Philadelphia. This weekend was a rousing success. Every brother and pledge from the Beta Chapter that attended had a good time, learned a lot about the fraternity, and bonded with members of the other chapters. A highlight of the weekend was when Supreme Exchequer, Elan Carr, recited the Cofa (the description of the Coat of Arms) with Pledge Gregg Schwarzwalder in a crowded Philly nightclub.

The pledge process was designed to incorporate full brotherhood participation. Every week the brothers were asked to suggest events, and vote on the events planned for the week. I opened up pledging in this way so that the brotherhood could feel more involved then they had in

the past, and to weed out events that may have been considered hazing. As an official non hazing institution we take hazing incidents very strongly and try to avoid them if possible.

One particular event of great success was the sorority sing. The pledges were instructed to sing three songs to a group of sororities. They were to choose from a Disney song, a rock ballad, and a boy band song. They decided to sing A Whole New World from Aladdin, Don't Want To Miss A Thing by Aerosmith, and I Want it That Way by the Back Street Boys. The boys were a hit wherever they went, and came back lauded with praise.

In summing up I would like to thank the brotherhood for giving me the opportunity to serve as the Gamma Pledgemaster. It was an experience I will never forget and am grateful for having been able to assist the growth of the chapter. I would also like to thank the Gamma brothers for putting up with me, and I now know the future of the chapter is secured.

Fraternally

Brother Pledgemaster Andrew Herman



The Official Newsletter of the Beta Colony of Alpha Epsilon Pi

Alpha Epsilon Pi Beta Colony
Zachary Peebles, Master
140 Thurston Avenue
Ithaca, NY 14850

Phone: 508-397-1213
Email: zap2@cornell.edu
Website: www.aepibeta.org

Commitment for a Lifetime.



Help Keep Us Up To Date

Fill out this form and return to:

Daniel Isaac, Alumni Chair
140 Thurston Ave.
Ithaca, NY 14850

Do you need to update your information? _____

Do you have an announcement you would like to place in the next issue? _____

Would you like to be put on an alumni email list to receive announcements from the chapter via email or to connect with other brothers? _____

Name _____

Year _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Please accept my enclosed donation of _____ to be used for _____

Announcement _____
